

**WATCHUNG
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES**

**November 28, 2018
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER-

President's Statement-

Under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting has been posted and sent to the official newspapers.

ROLL CALL-

Robert Riedinger (P); Harriet Stambaugh (P); Fran Ellis (P); Bruce Ruck (P); Ronald Jubin (A); Peter Savulich (A); Francesca Escalera (A); Julia Gunther (P), Diane Logan (P)

Although not present for roll call Ronald Jubin and Peter Savulich arrived at 7:05.

Also in attendance was Councilmember elect Daryl Eisenberg Knechten

CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –October 17, 2018

Following a motion by Harriet Stambaugh and a second by Robert Riedinger the minutes were unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter to Mayor and Council - sale of cannabis products

**HEALTH OFFICERS REPORTS FOR - October
attached**

Bruce asked how, when there is a recall of a product, we can insure that all of the tainted product has been removed from the stores. Kevin Sumner said Middle Brook does do spot checks and have never found anything still being sold. However, he said the stores are contacted before the Health Department is informed.

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO MIDDLE BROOK (Commission Report)

Ron Jubin said there is a meeting scheduled for Monday, December 3rd.

Bruce Ruck asked if Bound Brook has left the Commission yet and if Middlesex has decided if they will be joining the Commission. Kevin said Bound Brook will be gone as of March 1, 2019 and he has not heard anything further from Middlesex.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

New mold in school found. Kevin explained there was one book found in the school library and there were no other issues. Bruce said it is up to the school board to determine how they will prevent this in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Meeting Schedule for 2019 – all members reviewed and approved the schedule.

Budget 2019 - Bruce Ruck moved to accept the 2019 budget with a second by Harriet Stambaugh and upon roll call the vote was as follow: Riedinger; Stambaugh; Ellis; Ruck; Jubin; Savulich; Gunther; Logan, "aye".

Bruce Ruck reported someone had contacted him regarding response time for ambulance service, specifically about an incident when a resident collapsed in the Borough parking lot after a council meeting. He asked who covers for the volunteer service when there is no one on duty. Do we have a contract with Atlantic Service and if so what is the response time? Kevin said we do not have the authority or ability to ask this and suggested requesting the Mayor and Council look into this. After much discussion it was determined to have Bruce suggest the resident contact the Mayor and Council directly.

Marijuana – Bruce Ruck asked if anyone had watched the hearings on the legalization of Marijuana? He said not only will this Bill make it legal to sell it will also allow for home delivery of the product by private individuals who work for the private marijuana companies, not by the US Postal Service. Harriet mentioned a webinar scheduled next Monday, December 3rd from 2-3 PM, which Bruce said is coming from his office, on the legalization of recreational marijuana, a public health perspective. Bruce said it is not about the politics of it but more for the risk reduction for when it is approved for sale.

Robert Riedinger asked what the Commissions view is regarding the legalization of Marijuana.

Kevin explained that in 2006 he created PHACE (Public Health Associations Collaborative Effort) which is a convening of the leadership of the six New Jersey public health associations (Health Officers Association, Environmental Health Association, New Jersey Public Health Associations, New Jersey Public Health Educators, Public Health Nurse Administrators, and Local Boards of Health), to create a single voice and face for public health in New Jersey. He said this improves the partnerships across the Associations. He said they have been discussing the marijuana issue for more than a year and about a month ago they created a position statement on the marijuana which is being distributed to legislators. The statement is not political and does not take a side for or against. It raises public health concerns that have not as of yet been addressed or discussed. Ron Jubin said he is concerned from the public health aspect, there is a bigger risk than a benefit at this time. He said as a Board we should focus on the public issues and stay away from any political views. We can point people in the right direction whether it is a link to the CDC or other sites to get information.

Bruce said if this does become available and in an edible form the names or wrapping should not look like candy. He also said New Jersey did just pass edibles for medical marijuana and he does not believe it is stipulated in the law. Ron Jubin said most people would agree that packages should be clearly marked. Bruce Ruck also said in New Jersey medical marijuana will be allowed in health care facilities.

Bruce also mentioned the new mini-mart in the triangle is selling Kratom, an herbal product which is not illegal, that has an opioid-like affect. They are selling this in the form of capsules and vaps and they also have a very large vaping section in the store.

Julie Gunther said she recently looked at the Watchung website and felt the Board of Health information is not up to date and said this is a forum the board is not utilizing to get information out to the public. Bruce requested that Julie give the site a good look at we can discuss at the next meeting. Julie suggested the Board discuss issues that should go on the website as part of our agenda.

Ron Jubin made a suggestion for next year that we discuss the possibility for some type of wellness program whether it is to sponsor or reaching out to residents with suggestions such as walks around the lake. Anything that we can encourage the wellness of our residents. Maybe we could get someone to

sponsor a program with some type of incentive such as a gift card, etc. Possibly Modell's could be a sponsor.

Diane Logan said her students do health fairs and she could schedule something.

Bruce requested the January Agenda include a "brainstorming" session, approximately 15 minutes relating to the wellness topic, and also for him and Julie to discuss the website. If the Board can come up with two or three easily doable things it would be a starting point then we can go from there.

PUBLIC PORTION:

No Public in attendance

ADJOURNMENT-

The next scheduled meeting will be held on January 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "MaryAnn Hance".

MaryAnn Hance

Board of Health Secretary